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Farmer's and Gardener's Remembrancer.

[BY THE EDITOR.]

ON THE CULTIVATION OF WHEAT.

To raise good wheat is considered both in America and Europe as an object of prime consequence to the cultivator, and agricultural writers have of course been very voluminous on the subject. We shall select and condense some of their remarks, which appear to us of the greatest importance, and add what our own observation and experience has suggested.

Wheat is thought to be the most useful of the farinaceous plants, and as the bounty of Providence has generally decreed that those things which are most useful shall be most common, wheat accordingly will grow in almost any part of the globe. It thrives not only in temperate, but in very hot, and in very cold regions; in Africa and Siberia, as well as in the United States and Great Britain. It requires a good loamy soil, not too light, nor too heavy. The Memoirs of the New York Board of Agriculture, volume ii, page 28, state that "wheat grows best on land which contains just as much clay as can be combined with it without subjecting the wheat to be frozen out." And the author of that article, Mr. Amos Eaton, observes "since it is the clay which absorbs and retains most of the water injurious in wheat soils, I adopted a rule for the consideration of farmers, founded on that principle, and confirmed by all the observations I have been enabled to make. *Rule*—Wash a little of the soil in a tumbler of water, and observe the time required for it to become clear. If the time required exceeds three hours, it may be considered as liable to be injured by frost." W. Van Dusen, a farmer of Rensellaer county, N. Y. says, "that if wheat be sowed the last week in August, on clay soil, it will generally resist the effect of frost in the winter, and of insects in the spring." "A clay soil, according to the same work, "having absorbed a large proportion of water, becomes cellular as the water freezes, or rises up in various protuberances, so that the roots of the wheat plant become disengaged from their hold in the soil. It is very manifest that if wheat be sowed so early that each plant may have time to extend its roots into the soil, its chance for retaining its hold will be better." We believe that not only clay, but lime, chalk, marl, or other calcarious substance is necessary to bring wheat to perfection, and the grounds of our belief we shall exhibit hereafter.

The Complete Farmer says, that "the best time for sowing wheat is about the beginning of September. But if the earth be very dry, it had better be deferred till some showers have moistened the soil. Mr. Mortimer says he has known wheat to be so mustied and spoiled by laying long in the ground before rain came, that it never came up at all. To which he adds that he has seen very good crops of wheat from seeds sown in July." We should apprehend, however, that it would be necessary to feed wheat, sown so early, in order to prevent its going to seed the first year, or getting too far advanced in its growth to resist the frosts of the succeeding winter. Sowing in dry ground is generally recommended for seeds; but wheat, being liable to be smutty, is commonly prepared by steeping in brine or lime, and in consequence of the steep, vegetation commences, and if the seed in this state is placed in earth, which is, and continues for any time dry, vegetation is checked by the drought, which kills, or greatly injures the seed.

Early sowing requires less seed than late, because the plants have more time, and are more apt to spread, and throw out a good number of stalks. More seed is required for poor than for rich lands, and rich land early sowed requires the least of any. Bordley's Husbandry says "the climate and soil of America may be believed to differ greatly from those of England, respecting the growth of some particular plants. Wheat sown there two to three bushels on an acre, yields great crops. Two bushels an acre sown in Maryland or Pennsylvania, would yield straw without grain. In Maryland three pecks are commonly sown. I never had better crops than from half a bushel of seed wheat to an acre, in a few instances. In these instances the ground was perfectly clean and fine, after many ploughings or horse-hoeings of maize, [Indian corn,] on which the wheat was sown in September, whilst the maize was ripening. It was a clay loam highly pulverized. But because of the loss of plants at other times, I preferred to sow three pecks an acre."—"Grain, which is thin sown, says the Complete Farmer, is less apt to lodge. Every one must have observed that in places where foot paths are made through wheat fields, by the side of the paths, where the corn is thin, and has been trodden down in winter and spring, the plants have stood erect, when most of the corn in the same field has been laid flat on the ground, an advantage proceeding from the circumstance of the stalks having more room."

The Farmer's Assistant asserts that "the time for sowing wheat probably depends much on previous habit. Thus if it were sown a number of successive years by the middle of August, and then the time of sowing were changed at once, to October, the crop would probably be much lighter on that account; yet, where wheat has become habituated to be sown late, it will do tolerably well. The later it is sown, however, the more seed is requisite. When early sown, a bushel to the acre is believed to be sufficient; but when sown later, a bushel and an half, or more, may be necessary." The estimate of seed, however, should be formed not so much from the capacity of any particular measure, as from the number of grains, which that measure contains. The larger and fuller the seed is, the greater quantity by measure, will be required; the smaller, the less quantity. Much, therefore, must be left to the discretion of the farmer, who must take into consideration the time of sowing, the quality and preparation of the soil, as well as the plumpness or the shrivelled state of the seed wheat.

If naked summer fallows are used at all they may as well be made preparatory to a crop of wheat. It may sometimes be expedient to suspend, for one season, the raising of crops of any sort on land which is exhausted or greatly infested with weeds; and during the summer and autumn plough and harrow it several times, and thus thoroughly subdue it. When such a process is adopted, wheat is generally the succeeding crop. The custom of naked fallowing however, is not much approved of in modern husbandry, and that mode of preparing for wheat is rarely adopted by scientific cultivators. Sir John Sinclair says, "the raising clean, smothering, green crops, and feeding stock with them upon the land, is not only much more profitable, as far as relates to the value of the crop substituted in lieu of a fallow, but is also a more effectual method of procuring large crops of wheat, or any other crop, which may succeed the green crop." There is a disadvantage sometimes attending fallows, which we apprehend may be more detrimental in our climate than in that of Great Britain. Land which is kept in a light and pulverized state, is liable to be washed away by violent rains, and the showers of our summer season are usually more plentiful, and fall with more impetuosity than those of England, although the mean moisture is less, and there is less rain falls in the course of the year on this than the other side of the Atlantic.

In modern tillage wheat more usually follows clover than any other crop; and Bordley's Husbandry says "clover is the best preparative for a crop of wheat." In such case, English farmers, and indeed all others who *work it right*, give but one ploughing, and harrow in the seed by passing the harrow twice in a place the same way with the furrows. Mr. Bordley directs that the operations of ploughing, harrowing and sowing should immediately follow each other. Mr. Macro, an eminent English farmer says, "from upwards of twenty years experience I am of opinion, that the best way of sowing clover lands with wheat is to *plough the land* 10 *or* 14 *days before you sow it*, that the land may have time to get dry, and after rain to make it dress well. I am at a loss to account for the *wheat thriving better on lands which have been ploughed sometime*, than it does on *fresh ploughed* lands, which dress as well or better, but I have *often* tried both ways on the same lands, and always found the former answer best." Mr. Bordley in attempting to account for this effect says, "I *conjecture* that the clover plants being buried and the wheat sown at the same time, they both ferment and run into heat in the same period: the germ then shoots and the root is extremely delicate and tender for some days; during which the buried herbage obtains its highest degree of heat; which added to the internal heat of the germ, may, though only slightly, check and a little injure the delicate shoots of the wheat.—In sprouting barley for making malt, a little *excess of heat* in the bed checks, and a little more totally stops the sprouting or growth of the roots. Both modes give crops superior to what are produced on fallow. Farmers may well try both methods for determining which to prefer; that is, as well *immediate* sowing, on ploughing in the clover, as the method of sowing not till

10 or 14 days after having ploughed in the clover; suppose an half each way."

We believe that wheat would flourish better if it were buried deeper than it generally is in broad-cast sowing. Our opinion is founded on the following facts relating to the physiology of the wheat plant. "A grain of wheat, when put into the ground at the depth of three inches, undergoes the following transformations: As soon as the farinaceous matter which envelopes the frame of the young plant contained within it is softened into a milky state, a germ is pushed out, and at the bottom of that germ small roots soon follow. The roots are gathering strength, whilst the germ, by the aid of the milky fluid is shooting upwards; and when the milk is exhausted, the roots are in activity, and are collecting nourishment for the plant from the soil itself. This is analogous to the weaning of the young of animals, which are not abandoned by the mother till they can provide for themselves; but the care of nature does not end here; when the germ has fairly got above the surface, and become a plant, *a set of upper roots* are thrown out, close to the surface of the ground, which search all the superficial parts of the soil with the same activity as the under roots search the lower parts; and that part of the germ which separates the two sets of roots is now become a channel, through which the lower roots supply the plant with the nourishment they have collected. What an admirable contrivance to secure the prosperity of the plant! Two distinct sets of roots serve, in the first place, to fix the plant firmly in the ground, and to collect nourishment from every quarter. The upper roots are oppositely situated, to receive all the nourishment that comes naturally from the atmosphere, or artificially as manure to the surface; and serve the further purpose of being the base of new stems, which are tillered up, and so greatly increase the productiveness of the plant. The excellence of the drill system in grain, may be probably perceived in this explanation; for in broad cast sowing, the seeds lay very near to the surface, and in this situation it is not only more exposed to accidents arising from birds, insects and the weather, but the two sets of roots are necessarily crowded together, so as almost to become indistinct; the plant is less firm, and has fewer purveyors collecting food for it."*

Dr. Deane observed, that "wheat that is sowed in autumn, a clover ley excepted, should, instead of harrowing, be covered with a shallow furrow, and the surface left rough. It will be less in danger of being killed by the frost in winter, and less injured by drying winds in the following spring. The furrows should be left without harrowing; for the more uneven the ground is, the more the soil will be pulverized and mellowed by the frost." But if the crop which succeeds the wheat crop should require a smooth bottom, the land, after sowing, must be harrowed and should be rolled. Some husbandmen advise, when wheat is sown on a clover ley, to plough in the clover with a deep furrow, then plough in the seed wheat with a shallow furrow, and if the next crop in the rotation requires a level bottom, it will be necessary to harrow and roll the field as smooth as possible, after having ploughed in the seed.

* Mr. Featherstonhaugh's Essay on the Principles and Practice of Rural Economy.

[BY THE EDITOR.]

Discourses on Cold and Warm Bathing; with remarks on the effects of drinking Cold Water in Warm Weather. By JOHN G. COFFIN, M. D.

A useful Treatise with the above title has been for some time before the public, and has, we believe, met with attention in some degree corresponding to its merits. What induces us to suppose that this little work has not been permitted to pass without notice from the reading and reflecting part of the public, is the circumstance that many of its maxims have from time to time appeared in our newspapers, some times with, but often without acknowledging the source from whence they were derived. We think it a tract which ought to be in the possession of every family, and to be consulted, and its precepts attended to by every individual who wishes to enjoy the choicest of heaven's blessings, a sound mind in a sound body.

It is true that bathing is not quite so indispensable to animal existence as breathing, but it is hardly less so to the enjoyment of existence. If the pores of the skin are clogged, and, as it were hermetically sealed by a coating of perspirable, and other noisome matter, life can be but little better than a long disease; and if a person thus encumbered exhibits any symptoms of cheerfulness they must be either affected or artificial, produced by unnatural effort, or the stimulus of strong drink. Thus you will find that slovens are always moody and melancholy. Long beards, long faces, dirty linen, and a sordid skin, are not only the effects but often the causes of listlessness, gloom and stupidity. The ancients were well acquainted with these facts, and when they wished to *cherish distress*, and were suffering under the infliction of some calamity, which they thought rendered it a duty to "refuse to be comforted," they clothed themselves in sackloth and ashes, and made uncleanliness auxiliary to the melancholy which they considered as most befitting the most lamentable occasions. It is true that those who use a great deal of exercise in the open air, and who wash themselves with the dews of their own perspiration, stand in less need of habitual bathing than those who lead sedentary lives.

"Behold the laborer of the glebe, who toils
In dust, in rain, in cold, and sultry skies;
Save but the grain from mildew and the flood,
Nought anxious he what sickly stars ascend,
He knows no laws by Esculapius given,
He studies none."

In plain prose, a man who uses much corporeal exercise, in open air, may be uncleanly in his person without apparent injury to his health, as well as neglect other rules, which must be conformed to by sedentary persons, and those who exercise the mind instead of the body, if they would preserve the first and most important of temporal blessings.

Bathing among the ancients made a part of diet, and was used as familiarly as eating or sleep; both cold and warm bathing were likewise in high esteem among their physicians for the cure of diseases.

"In ancient times, when Rome with Athens vied
For polish'd luxury and useful arts;
All hot and reeking from th' Olympic strife,
And warm Palestra, in the tepid bath,
Th' athletic youth relax'd their wearied limbs."

Among the Turks bathing forms a part of diet and of religion as well as of luxury and a mean of preserving and restoring health. In every town, and even village, there is a public bath, for those who have not the convenience of private baths attached to their own houses. By these baths, they prevent or dispel rheumatisms, catarrhs, and such cutaneous disorders as are produced by want of perspiration. Thus the blood is made to circulate with freedom, the whole body acquires a suppleness and lightness, and the spirits gain a vivacity and flow, which are not experienced in an equal degree by those who do not pay so much attention to external cleanliness. The women are particularly fond of these baths, and frequent them at least once a week. The linen and clothing which they use are passed through the sweet steam of the wood of aloes. The days appropriated to the use of the bath are festivals among the Egyptian women; and on this occasion they pay great attention to the ornaments of their dress, as well as to the cleanliness of their persons.*

In Russia, the bath forms so essential a part of the system of living, that it is used by people of every age, and in all circumstances, by infants, by lying-in women, in almost all sicknesses, before and after a journey, after hard work, &c. The bath is a necessary of life so indispensable to the common people, that they frequent it as often as possible, well or ill, and without any particular occasion, once a week at least. The Russian baths are, generally, what are denominated "sweating baths." They are vapor baths, not water, nor yet dry sweating baths; differing in this respect from all the baths of antiquity, as well as from those of the modern Orientals; and in this consists their essential excellence, that they are beneficial in a variety of cases, where hot water baths would be useless if not pernicious. All the inventions of effeminacy and luxury are entirely obviated in the use of these baths, and there is no anointing after bathing as was practised by the Greeks and Romans. Instead of such practices, the Russian bathers will throw themselves immediately from the bath-room into an adjoining river, or roll themselves naked in the first snow bank. It is said by medical men, acquainted with the subject, that the Russians owe their longevity, their robust state of health, their little disposition to certain mortal diseases, and their happy and cheerful temper, principally to these baths, though climate, aliment, and habits of living likewise contribute their share.

"The great lord Chancellor Bacon, and other sagacious observers of nature, and of mankind, have lamented, and certainly not without cause, that the practice of bathing has fallen into disuse among the modern nations of Europe, and anxiously wish that it might again revive in all our towns and villages. In fact, when we consider, says Mr. Tooke, that the old physicians so early introduced into their practise this remedy of nature's own invention, and employed it with such great success; when we recollect that Rome, for 500 years, had no physicians, but only baths, and that to this day a multitude of nations cure almost all their maladies merely by baths, we cannot avoid regarding the dismission of them as the epocha of a grand revolution which has been wrought in the physical state of the human race, in one quarter of the

* See Savary's Travels.

world. The natural perspiration, the most important of all excretions, must naturally go on better in a body kept constantly soft by bathing. Many impurities that privily lay in us the train to tedious and dangerous distempers, are removed in time, before they poison the blood and juices."*

We think nothing more need be said to prove the utility of bathing. But this, like all other good things, is liable to abuse. Cold or warm bathing, excessively or improperly used, is injurious. Every body knows, who is in the least degree conversant with ancient history, that Alexander had nearly lost his life by plunging, while heated and exhausted, into the river Cydnus. The cold bath was successfully used for the recovery of the Emperor Augustus from dangerous sickness, but the same application was supposed to have proved fatal to his heir apparent, Marcellus. Like other powerful remedies, it ought not to be (although it too frequently is) tampered with. With good advice, therefore, go into water, whether warm or cold. You had better not bathe at all, than not bathe by rule. Armstrong, celebrated both as a physician and a poet, touches on this subject in the following lines:

"Let those who from the frozen Arctos reach
Parch'd Mauritania, or the sultry West,
Or the wide flood through rich Indostan roll'd,
Plunge thrice a day, and in the tepid wave
Untwist their stubborn pores; that full and free
Th' evaporation through the soften'd skin
May bear proportion to the swelling blood;
So shall they 'scape the fever's rapid flames.
With us,† the man of no complaint demands
The warm ablution, just enough to clear
The sluices of the skin, enough to keep
The body sacred from indecent soil."

These directions, however, are rather poetical than practical, and tend more to amuse the fancy than to enlighten the understanding.—Notwithstanding the great importance of bathing as a mean of preserving health, or healing diseases, nothing definite, nothing scientific has, till within a few years, been published on the subject. As Dr. Coffin well observes in the Advertisement to the Treatise which is the subject of this notice, "The principles of bathing have been but little studied, or the practice of it rationally adopted in the United States; less indeed than our general advancement in civilization, or the present improvement in the science of preventing and curing diseases would lead one to expect or desire." A number of elaborate publications on this topic, have indeed appeared in Europe, but they are not only voluminous, but inaccessible to the great body of the community. Such a work as the one before us, was, therefore, very much wanted, and ought to be read by every person capable of reading and reflection, to whom health as well as cleanliness are objects worth attention.

On the benefits of bathing in autumn we shall give some remarks, furnished by a medical friend, whose science, judgment, and experience may be relied on.

"Some persons think that so soon as the hot weather abates, bathing may be discontinued without loss. But this is so far from being true, that there are some peculiar advantages to be derived from continuing the practice in that season. One is that the bath enables us to surmount the languor, which the preceding heat has induced. Another is that bathing prepares us to meet the approaching cold of winter without inconvenience and without danger; so that we neither suffer from a sense of cold, nor fall sick from the gradual changes of the seasons from summer and autumn to winter. Bathing too, is one of the greatest preventives of autumnal fevers; for proof of this take the following facts from Dr. Currie.

"In the year 1792, a regiment of troops was stationed in Liverpool, England. Their general guard-room had been previously used as a place of confinement for deserters. It was extremely close and dirty, and under it was a cellar, which in the winter had been full of water. This water was now half evaporated, and from the surface issued offensive exhalations. In a dark, narrow and unventilated cell, it was usual to confine such men as were sent to the guard for misbehavior, and about the 20th of May, several men had been shut up in this place on account of drunkenness, and suffered to remain here twenty-four hours, under the debility that succeeds intoxication. The typhus, or jail fever, made its appearance in two of these men, about the first of June, and spread with great rapidity.

"Ten of the soldiers laboring under this endemic, were received into the Liverpool Infirmary, and the wards allotted to fever could admit no more. The infection continuing its progress, a temporary hospital was fitted up at the fort, and I was requested to give my assistance. In two rooms, each about 15 feet square, were fourteen patients laboring under fever.—The symptoms of the disease were, more or less of cough, with mucous expectoration. In all those who had sustained the disease eight days or more, there were *petechiae** on the skin, in several there were occasional bleedings from the nostrils, and streaks of blood in the expectoration. Debility was considerable from the first; the pulse varied from 100 to 130 strokes in the minute; heat from 101 to 103 degrees. Great pain in the head, with stupor, pervaded the whole, and in several instances a low delirium. Our first care was to ventilate and clean the room; our second, to wash and clean the patients themselves. Our third object was to stop the progress of the infection. We first attempted to purify the guard room, but this was found to be impracticable. The weather being wet and cold, the men on guard could not be prevailed on to remain in the open air; and from passing the nights in the infected guard room, several privates of the successive reliefs caught the infection, and fell ill on the 10th, 11th and 12th of the month. In several of these the fever ran through its course; and in others it was immediately arrested by the affusion of sea water over the body.

"The infected guard room was shut up, and a temporary shed erected in its stead. Still the infection proceeded; on the 13th, three more having been added to the sick list. On this day therefore the whole regiment were drawn up at my request, and the men examined in their ranks; seventeen were found with symptoms of fever; it was not difficult to distinguish these as they stood by their fellows. Their countenances were languid, their whole appearance dejected, and their eyes had a dull red suffusion. These men were carefully separated from the rest of the corps, and immediately subjected to the cold affusion of water, always repeated once and sometimes twice a day. In fifteen of the number the disease was extinguished; two only went through the fever. On the same day the commanding officer, at my desire, issued an order for the whole remaining part of the regiment to bathe in the sea; and for sometime they were regularly mustered, and marched down at high water, to plunge into the tide.—These means were successful in arresting the endemic. After the 13th of June no person was attacked by it. Fifty-eight had the disease—thirty-two went through its regular courses, and in twenty-six the fever seemed to be cut short by the cold affusion. Two only died, and both of these had been enfeebled by a West India climate, and by other causes.

"Several instances have come to my knowledge, of individuals who had during a number of years usually suffered from autumnal fever and rheumatism, but who, after a regular course of sea, or other cold bathing, have escaped these complaints. In these cases there has been a sensible increase of strength, diminished tenderness in regard to the sensation of cold, and less liability to catarrh from the ordinary atmospheric changes of the season. In this way the preventive operation of bathing can be readily understood."

Having already protracted this article to an extent beyond our intended limits, we must omit giving quotations from the work of Dr. Coffin, which we would wish to recommend, rather than attempt to criticize or review.—Perhaps we may again advert to it, particularly that part which is entitled "Remarks on the effects of drinking cold water in warm weather." We would, however, before we dismiss the subject of bathing, recommend to the consideration of innkeepers, whether it would not be pleasant, profitable and salubrious, to establish cold and warm baths, especially the latter, at their houses of entertainment? The weary and wayworn traveller may frequently derive more refreshment from five minutes bathing in a warm bath, than from as many hours spent in attempting to repose on a bed of down. Warm bathing dispels fatigue, as it were, by magic, and gives a predisposition to enjoy the benefits of "tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep," which are often sought in vain by those to whom violent and long continued exercise have rendered them peculiarly necessary.

We will now close our recommendation of bathing, and the treatise which directs when and how the bath is to be used, which gave occasion to these remarks, with one other quotation from a favorite poet, whose maxims are well calculated to lessen the miseries of human life.

"Still to be pure, e'en did it not conduce
(As much it does) to health, were greatly worth
Your daily pains. 'Tis this adorns the rich;
The want of this is poverty's worst woe;
With this external virtue, age maintains
A decent grace; without it, youth and charms
Are loathsome. This should maidens know,
As doubtless do your wives; for married sires
As well as lovers, still pretend to taste;
Nor is it less, (all prudent wives can tell)
To lose a husband's than a lover's heart."

* Rees' Cyclopedia.
† In Great Britain.

* Red or purple spots resembling flea-bites.

From the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository.

ESSAYS ON FLAX HUSBANDRY.

BY S. W. POMEROY, ESQ.
First Vice President of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture.

No. II.

Notwithstanding it is an opinion well established among experienced Flax growers in this country, that a change of seed is advantageous, it is apprehended that they are not aware of the extent of the benefit to be derived by selecting seed from a soil or climate essentially different; and it may be owing to a want of attention in this particular that the flax crops are so uncertain and the quality inferior, however perfect in other respects the system may be conducted. Mr. Young observes that foreign flax seed was universally used in Ireland, when it could be obtained, otherwise they were careful to procure seed which grew upon soil of an opposite quality from that which was to be sown, that American seed was to be preferred, and produced finer flax than any other. Baltic seed produced more but of a coarser quality. It is well known that American seed always bears the highest price in the Irish market.

We next look to Flanders, where flax was cultivated at a period as early as the commencement of the christian era.* Fortunately we are furnished with "directions for cultivating flax after the Flanders method" published by commissioners and trustees appointed by the British government to promote the linen trade in Scotland, at the head of whom was the celebrated Lord Kaims; from this high authority we learn that it was the practice "to sow seed imported from Riga, if it could be obtained, otherwise the produce of Riga seed sown in Holland, and if that could not be had, that which Riga seed had produced in their own country, being careful to choose that which had grown on soil of a different texture and quality. What is the practice in Germany, where the cultivation is very extensive? By a respectable British publication, now before me,† in which an account is given of the trade of Stettin, a city of Prussian Pomerania, situated near the mouth of the river Oder, it appears that the extent of the linen trade is estimated by the quantity of Flax-seed imported; and it is stated that on an average of ten years preceding 1796, twenty-one thousand, six hundred and forty-five tons of Flax-seed were annually imported into that port, to be sent up the Oder and the waters connected with it, which, at forty bushels to the ton, amounted to upwards of eight hundred thousand bushels! sufficient for half a million of acres at the rate it is sown in this country! and it is not improbable that large quantities are imported into other ports connected with the German rivers.

Foreign Flaxseed was sought after even in the remote vallies of Switzerland, as appears by the following extract from a treatise on the culture of Flax by Mr. Tschiffeli, president of the economical society of Berne. "In general the best flax-seed is produced on strong soils, and in cold climates. Experience has long convinced us that what is brought from Livonia" (Riga seed) "is to be preferred to all others, but when this cannot be procured, we must make use of that which grows on our own mountains, for instance Gessenai, Jura," &c.

A Flemish colony first settled the island of Fayal, and introduced Flax. They have become amalgamated with the Portuguese, but the culture, and manufacture of linen in families, has continued to an extent nearly equal to the clothing and general consumption of a very dense population. The soil is mostly in tillage, and from its elevation admits of a variety of aspect and temperature, and a great care is bestowed on the culture of flax. I have been informed by Mr. Dabney, the United States consul for the Azores, who has resided fifteen years at Fayal, that American seed, obtained from ships bound to Ireland, arriving in distress, has been sown; and the product, in flax and seed, has been fifty per cent. more than from that of native growth by the side of it! We have no information to this point from Russia or Italy; but it is believed that examples enough have been cited to shew the importance attached to this branch of the system in Europe, and to justify the conclusion that in this country a continued, judicious change of seed will be indispensable to the successful prosecution of flax husbandry; and a further inference may be drawn, that experiments on various soils with seed the growth of different climates, are requisite to direct the farmer to the quarter from whence his best seed may be obtained. Here opens a legitimate field for our numerous agricultural societies to labor in; on their exertions the farmer must depend in the outset; but let it once be ascertained that Riga seed is best in one section, Dutch or German in others, and mercantile interest, if not patriotism, will soon distribute them.

Should it be objected to importing seed on account of the expense, we reply, that large quantities of linseed oil are constantly imported, and the difference of price between our own seed and that imported, will not much exceed what is now paid for good clean seed for sowing or export, and that which is sold for crushing; but if it is fifty cents per bushel, or more, it can be no object, compared with the advantages that may be reasonably expected to result, and the farmer need not be told, that "in all his operations, parsimony is never so ill judged, as when exercised in the selection of his seed." It is not pretended, however, but that, from the great variety of soil and climate in the United States, the object in view might be obtained without importations; yet, it may be important to have a good stock to begin with, when trials could be instituted with its produce; at any rate it cannot be expected that individuals will embark in such a course of experiments, either with foreign or domestic seed, unless encouraged by agricultural societies or other public bodies.

SOILS.

The subject presents a character of such national importance, that a wider range must be taken than views of mere local interests require; we shall therefore first examine, under the present head, the different sections of our country. New soils are found most favorable to the growth of the flax plant; and it is scarcely necessary to mention the vast fertile tracts on the western waters, as capable of producing immense quantities.

The State of Maine has a soil and climate, that appears highly congenial to flax culture. The extensive tracts of strong carbonaceous soils, particularly those denominated "black lands," and the almost total absence of drought, will enable that state to possess a staple in this article, not inferior in value to any, except grazing, whenever the energies of her population shall be directed to it. The rest of New-England, that part of New York not included in the first description, and New Jersey, have bodies of land suitable for flax, quite sufficient to be embraced in the system of agriculture best adapted to their situation. Pennsylvania probably grows more flax than all the other states in the union.* The Atlantic sections of the states, south of the Delaware to the cotton latitude, possess considerable tracts of alluvial soils, bordering on the numerous rivers, bays and inlets, with which they are intersected; a portion of them, besides swamps, may be reclaimed without great expense; they have also bodies of strong clays. Should these be too much exhausted by severe cropping, they may soon be restored by the admirable clover system adopted by Col. Taylor of Virginia, and made to produce good flax; as it is probable, from the early period the ground may be sown, that the crop would be seldom injured by the droughts to which the climate is subject.

The soils which rank first in this country are the flat bottoms, that are covered by the fall and spring floods which subside early enough in the season to get in a crop; those river flats on the second banks, that have a depth of strong alluvial soil; the reclaimed marshes and swamps with a black unctuous soil, not too peaty, with as much clay in the composition as will permit its being rendered soon dry and mellow, and not retain water on or near the surface; if it stands two feet below, so much the better, but must be well guarded by ditches and dykes against sudden freshets. Such is the soil of the province of Zealand, where more flax is raised and of better quality, than in any other part of Holland. The next in estimation are the strong black loams on clay, or hard pan, that will retain moisture. Yellow loams, with a holding subsoil, may be rendered suitable for flax by proper cultivation; and since the discovery that plaster of Paris is an excellent manure for it, a crop may be obtained with much more certainty on lighter land than formerly.—Perhaps the characteristic of best garden mould may be applied to a flax soil, viz. retaining sufficient moisture, and all that falls, without ever being saturated; but on any soils the surface should be completely pulverized, and never worked when wet.

MANURES.

No dung should be applied to the land when the flax is sown, but may be put on bountifully with the previous crop. The objection is, that dung forces the growth so rapidly that the plants draw weak, have a thin harle, and are more liable to lodge. Lime, marle, shells, leached ashes, &c. do not produce such effects. Top dressings, soon after the plants appear, of plaster, ashes, soot, &c. are highly beneficial, as

* Pliny's Natural History, book 19.

† Commercial Agricultural Magazine, vol. iii. 1800.

* By the returns of the Marshals in 1810, there was manufactured in the United States $800,000 worth of Linseed Oil; $500,000 of which was made in Pennsylvania, and $200,000 in New England.—*See Cox's Statement.*

they not only encourage the growth, but are a protection against worms, which sometimes attack the young plants, and may be considered the only enemy they have, except weeds.

Salt has been mentioned by the late Dr. Elliot, of Connecticut, as an excellent manure to plough in with flax at the rate of five bushels to the acre;* probably more would be better. Plaster is now much used in Duchess county, the best cultivated district in New York, as a manure for flax, on which its good effects are apparent as on corn.

The late chancellor Livingston viewed a piece of flax on the 20th of May, 1791, belonging to a poor tenant, very injudiciously sown on a dry sandy declivity, it looked so extremely sickly that the tenant thought of ploughing it up; the chancellor gave him three bushels of Plaster, which was sown the next morning before the dew was off, and had the satisfaction of seeing his tenant gather more flax from his half acre in an uncommon dry season, than was produced from any acre in the neighborhood.†

PREPARATION OF THE LAND.

It is not unfrequent in Ireland to obtain crops of flax from green sward, on which they put lime, shells, limestone, gravel, &c. and break up in the fall, cross ploughing and harrowing fine in the spring; but it most commonly succeeds a crop of potatoes which receive the manure. In Flanders, Hemp was formerly more used as a preparation for flax than since the introduction of potatoes. In Italy it commonly precedes flax, and although the land gets no tillage, as the hemp is well manured it grows strong, and is then a powerful destroyer of weeds. In England, on some of the fen soils of Lincolnshire, the usual course is hemp 2 or 3 years in succession, well manured, then flax without manure; a crop of turnips is often taken the same season after the flax, and hemp succeeds again. In Russia it is said that extensive crops of flax are drawn from new cleared lands after burning them over, and harrowing in the seed with ashes. The best preparatory crops in this country, at present, appear to be potatoes, corn and roots; they will most generally repay the extra manure, and if well managed check the production of weeds.

The following rotations may serve as an outline, subject to be varied, and hemp or other crops introduced as circumstances require, viz:

No. I. Low, cold or reclaimed Soils.

1st year *Potatoes.*
2d do. FLAX with seed.
3d do. *Herds grass* and *red top* or *tall meadow oat grass*, to continue three years or more, and the course repeated.

No. II. Strong Uplands.

1st year *Potatoes or Corn.*
2d do. *Corn or Roots.*
3d do. FLAX with seed.
4th do. *Clover.*
5th do. *Orchard grass or Herds grass*, to continue three years or more.

No. III. Light Lands.

1st year *Potatoes or Corn.*
2d do. *Corn or Roots.*
3d do. FLAX with seed.
4th do. *Clover*, to be mown once, the after growth to be turned in and *Rye* sown, thick on the furrow, which may be soiled or fed in the spring by sheep or milch cows, and ploughed in; for
5th year *Corn.*
6th do. *Spring Wheat or Barley.*
7th do. *Clover*, and the course to be pursued as before, when flax will occupy the land every seventh year. In all cases, except when hemp is substituted, the tillage crops should receive the dung.

If the land is ploughed into beds, or convex ridges like turnpike roads about a rod wide, especially if low and level, the crop will be much more secure from injury by heavy rains, and the grass crops will be better if it remains in that form. On any soils, fall ploughing in narrow ridges will facilitate its early working in spring, and should not be dispensed with.

CHOICE OF SEED.

That of the last year's growth should be obtained if possible. The usual marks of good seed are, that it be plump, oily and heavy, of a bright brown colour, sinking readily in water, and when thrown into the fire to *crackle* and *blaze* quick. A very simple method of trial is to sprinkle it thin between two pieces of wet paper, which plunge in a hot bed or dunghill, and in less than twenty-four hours the proportion that will vegetate can be discerned, which should be ascertained in order to regulate the

QUANTITY TO BE SOWN.

On this head no particular directions can be given, as it depends on the various qualities of soil, goodness of seed, &c. The rule for seeding small grains is *reversed*; flax requiring to be sown thickest on rich soil, as not more than one stock is wanted from a plant. In England and Scotland, never less than two, or more than three bushels to the acre are sown. Two and a half is the most usual portion. In Flanders and Ireland seldom less than three bushels are sown, except when seed is an object. Thick sowing is to obtain fine flax. In this country it will be important, at present, to sow at such a rate as will insure good crops of each; and experience only can determine the exact point.

If sown very thin, too many lateral branches will be thrown out, each producing a boll or pod affording more seed, but shorter and inferior flax. If sown too thick, the plants will draw up weak, with a single boll on a plant, and, subject as our climate is to heavy showers and thunder gusts, very liable to lodge—one of the greatest dangers a flax crop has to encounter. The commissions for promoting flax culture in Scotland, considered it as practicable, and strongly recommended that the system should be so conducted, as to obtain good flax and good seed at the same time. It is so viewed in Ireland, among the more extensive cultivators, except when wanted for fine linen, cambric, lawn, &c. Dr. Deane, in the "New-England Farmer," a work of great merit, published some thirty years since, when flax culture was more attended to than at present, recommends from six to seven pecks. It is probable that six pecks is the least, and two bushels the extent that should be sown to obtain the most profitable results, till the demand for seed is considerably lessened.*

*See Eliot's Essays on Field Husbandry.

†Transactions of Agricultural Society, New York.

*The demand for Linseed Oil must increase with the population for some time to come, as there appear no indications that the *people* will forsake their household deities, *Clapboards* and *Paint*, 'till the soil is much more denuded of its timber; even in those districts where the roads and fields are incumbered with suitable materials for permanent, *cheaper*, and more elegant buildings.

Mahogany.—The difficulty of procuring mahogany, and other costly woods, and the consequent exorbitant prices demanded for the ordinary articles of family convenience, has ocasioned the art of the chemist to be applied to a subject peculiarly calculated to promote domestic embellishment at a trifling expense. It has been contrived to render any species of wood of a close grain so nearly to resemble mahogany in the texture, density, and polish, that the most accurate judges are incapable of distinguishing between this happy imitation and the native produce. The first operation, as now practised in France, is to plane the surface, so as to render it perfectly smooth; the wood is then to be rubbed with a solution of nitrous acid, which prepares it for the materials subsequently to be applied. Afterwards, one ounce and an half of dragon's blood, dissolved in a pint of spirits of wine, and one third of that quantity of carbonate of soda, are to be mixed together and filtered, and the liquid in this thin state is to be rubbed, or rather laid on the wood with a soft brush.—This process is repeated with very little alteration, and, in a short interval afterwards, the wood possesses the external appearance we have described. When this application has been properly made, the surface will resemble an artificial mirror; but if the polish becomes less brilliant, by the use of a little cold-drawn linseed oil, the wood will be restored to its former brilliancy.

It is not known, perhaps, so generally as it ought to be, that apples make an exellent jelly. The process is as follows:—They are to be pared, quartered, the core completely removed, and put into a pot without water, closely covered, and placed in an oven over a fire. When pretty well stewed, the juice is to be squeezed out through a cloth, to which a little white of egg is added, and then the sugar. Skim it previous to boiling, then reduce it to a proper consistence, and an excellent jelly will be the product.—*U. S. Gazette.*

DR. GREEN'S CURE FOR DRUNKENNESS.

Whenever you feel an inclination to drink spiritous liquor, (Grog) drink cool—fresh water. This is an effectual cure: and, in a very short time, you will make a *sober* man—out of the greatest drunkard.

Drunkenness (the Doctor says,) is a disease of the stomach, and cool water is the remedy. For the goodness of Providence has placed by the side of every disease, its appropriate remedy; and by the side of every evil, its appropriate good. Let us be thankful.

In an answer of the Doctor to a letter I sent him, relative to my sickness, and drinking spiritous liqour, it contained in substance, what I now write; and thank Providence, it has perfectly cured me of that dreadful disease, called drunkenness.

I can now attend to my business, and can say, that a sober life is a good life—a saving of many things—'tis a saving of cash—'tis a saving of the constitution—'tis a saving of a man's credit.—*Massachusetts Spy.*

From the American Farmer.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE CURING OF HOPS.

Beverly, 4th July, 1823.

Gorham Parsons, Esq.

Dear Sir—I did not keep a copy of the letter I wrote you respecting the culture and curing of hops, and I do not recollect particularly the further information you requested of me, but I believe it was principally respecting the kiln.

A kiln for the purpose of drying hops should be at the side of a hill or rising ground, so that the top should be about nine feet from the bottom, twelve feet square at the top, tapering on all sides to about three and a half feet at the bottom *in the clear*, built up tapering, with stone laid in lime mortar, and plastered with clay from top to bottom with an aperture at the bottom about the size of the mouth of a common oven, for the convenience of putting in the coal, firing it, and regulating it afterwards.

Upon the stones at the top, is placed a sill of four pieces of timber of about eight inches square, and of course about twelve feet long, that being the size of the kiln at the top, upon which you place strips of boards, half inch thick and two inches wide, and within three and a half to four inches of each other, over which you stretch tow or coarse linen cloth, for a bed to place the hops upon, for the purpose of drying, and under which, at the bottom of the kiln, is made a charcoal fire, regulated at the discretion of the man who attends the drying. It will of course be necessary to have a board round the kiln at the top, of about one foot high, to confine the hops on the bed. I think it would be a further improvement to have a covered roof, and open at the sides, to protect the hops in case of rain, while they are drying.

It will be necessary to stir them constantly with a rake, while they are drying, and you may with convenience dry about fifty pounds each time. I believe you may calculate about one pound to a hill, or 800 lbs. to the acre, for the second and third year, after planting, if the land is in good order. It will be well to renew your fields once in three or four years, because the vine degenerates.

I am, dear Sir, with great respect,
Your friend and obedient servant,
ISRAEL THORNDIKE.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1823.

☞ Several communications were received too late for this day's paper. They will be given next week.

The Trustees of the *Massachusetts Agricultural Society* cannot omit the opportunity of tendering, publicly, their thanks to Captain JACKSON, of the Ship Herald, for the great care and attention bestowed by him on their fine imported bull, Admiral, presented to the Society by Sir Isaac Coffin, without which care he must probably have perished during his long and boisterous passage. This example is worthy of imitation, as upon the patriotic assiduity of Ship-masters often depends the acquisition of plants and animals, which may prove of importance to their country.

In behalf of the Trustees,
JOHN LOWELL, *President*.

Roxbury, August 28, 1823.

Extracts from a work lately published by WILLIAM COBBETT, entitled "*Cottage Economy*," with occasional remarks on some of the statements of the author.

[*Continued from page* 30.]

"If the laborer have his fair wages; if there be no false weights and measures, whether of money or of goods, by which he is defrauded; if the laws be equal in their effect on all men; if he be called upon for no more than his due share of the expenses necessary to support the government and defend the country, he has no reason to complain. If the largeness of his family demand extraordinary labor and care, these are due from him to it. He is the cause of the existence of that family; and, therefore, he is not, except in cases of accidental calamity, to throw upon others the burthen of supporting it. Besides, "little children are as arrows in the hands of the giant, and blessed is the man that hath his quiver full of them." That is to say children, if they bring their *cares*, bring also their *pleasures* and *solid advantages*. They become, very soon, so many assistants and props to the parents, who when old age comes on, are amply repaid for all the toil and all the cares that children have occasioned in their infancy. To be without sure and safe friends in the world makes life not worth having; and whom can we be so sure of as our children. Brothers and sisters are a mutual support. We see them, in almost every case, grow up into prosperity, when they act the part that the impulses of nature prescribe. When cordially united, a father and sons, or a family of brothers and sisters, may, in almost any state of life, set what is called misfortune at defiance.

"These considerations are much more than enough to sweeten the toils and cares of parents, and to make them regard every additional child as an additional blessing. But, that children may be a blessing and not a curse, care must be taken of their *education*. This word has, of late years, been so perverted, so corrupted, so abused, in its application, that I am almost afraid to use it here. Yet I must not suffer it to be usurped by cant and tyranny. I must use it; but, not without clearly saying what I mean.

"*Education* means *breeding up*, *bringing up*, or *rearing up*; and nothing more. This includes every thing with regard to the *mind* as well as the *body* of the child; but of late years, it has been so used as to have no sense applied to it but that of *book learning*, with which, nine times out of ten, it has nothing at all to do. It is, indeed, proper, and it is the duty, of every parent, to teach, or cause to be taught, their children as much as they can of books, *after*, and not before, all the measures are safely taken for enabling them to get their living by labor, or, for *providing them a living without labor*, and that too, out of the means obtained and secured by the parents out of their own income. The taste of the times unhappily, is to give to children something of *book-learning* with a view of placing them to live, in some way or other, *upon the labor of other people*. Very seldom, comparatively speaking, has this succeeded, even during the wasteful public expenditure of the last thirty years; and, in the times that are approaching, it cannot, I thank God, succeed at all. When the project has failed, what disappointment, mortification and misery, to both parent and child! The latter is spoiled as a laborer; his book-learning has only made him conceited; into some course of desperation he falls; and the end is but too often not only wretched but ignominious.

"Understand me clearly here, however; for, it is the duty of parents to give, if they are able, book learning to their children, having *first* taken care to make them capable of earning their living by *bodily labor*. When that object has once been secured, the other may, if the ability remain, be attended to. But, I am wholly against children wasting their time in the idleness of what is called *education*; and particularly in schools over which the parents have no controul, and where nothing is taught but the rudiments of servility, pauperism and slavery.

"The *education* that I have in view is, therefore, of a very different kind. You should bear constantly in mind, that nine tenths of us are, from the very nature and necessities of the world, born to gain our livelihood by the sweat of our brow. What reason have we, then, to presume, that our children are not to do the same? If they be, as now and then one will be, endued with extraordinary powers of mind, those powers may have an opportunity of developing themselves; and, if they never have that opportunity, the harm is not very great to us or to them. Nor does it hence follow, that the descendants of laborers are *always* to be laborers. The path upwards is steep and long, to be sure. Industry, care, skill, excellence in the present parent lays the foundation of *a rise*, under more favorable circumstances, for his children. The children of these take *another rise*; and, by and by, the descendants of the present laborer become gentlemen.

"This is the natural progress. It is by attempting to reach the top at a *single leap* that so much misery is produced in the world; and the propensity to make such attempts has been cherished and encouraged by the strange projects that we have witnessed of late years for making the laborers *virtuous* and *happy* by giving them what is called *education*. The education which I speak of consists in bringing children up to labor with *steadiness*, with *care*, and with *skill*; to show them how to do as many useful things as possible; to teach them to do them all in the best manner; to set them an example in industry, sobriety, cleanliness and neatness; to make all these *habitual* to them, so that they never shall be liable to fall into the contrary; to let them always see a *good living* proceeding from *labor*, and thus to remove from them the temptation to get at the goods of others by violent or fraudulent means, and to keep far from their minds all the inducements to hypocrisy and deceit.

"And, bear in mind, that, if the state of the laborer has its disadvantages when compared with other callings and conditions of life, it has also its advantages. It is free from the torments of ambition, and from a great part of the causes of ill-health, for which not all the riches in the world and all the circumstances of high rank are a compensation. The able and prudent laborer is always *safe*, at the least, and that is what few men are who are lifted above him. —They have losses and crosses to fear, the very thought of which never enters his mind, if he act well his part towards himself, his family and his neighbor."

The foregoing sentiments are perfectly correct and happily expressed. The following,

translated from Rosseau, is to the same purpose, and may serve to corroborate Mr. Cobbett's ideas on a very important subject. "In the education of your children you seem to trust to the state of society's continuing the same when they are grown up, without considering that it is subject to revolutions which it is impossible for you to foresee or prevent, but which may affect your children. The great become little, the rich poor, the king a subject, and the subject a king. Agriculture is the first employment of man; it is the most honest, the most useful, and consequently the most noble. If, instead of, or in addition to, superior mental acquirements, you could, in time of necessity, employ your hands, all your difficulties would vanish, nor would you want the interest of the great, or be tempted to become servile and base for the purpose of gaining a precarious subsistence."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

HORTICULTURE.

The London Horticultural Society have lately sent out to this country Mr. Daniel Douglas, an eminent botanist, for the purpose of collecting specimens of rare plants, vegetables, fruits, &c. in the United States and Canada. Mr. Douglas has directions to call on Dr. Hosack, of New York, and Mr. Clinton, at Albany, for their advice and aid in the objects of his agency. These gentlemen are honorary members of the Horticultural Society of London, and have contributed to its objects. Dr. Hosack has sent to the Society all the varieties of maize which are found in the U. States, &c. and has been presented with an elegant medal. Mr. Douglas proposes to visit Philadelphia and its environs, together with New Jersey, with a view to the objects of his tour—to return to New York, explore the gardens, &c. in the vicinity of that city—to advise with Mr. Clinton with respect to his route to Niagara thro' the Western counties of the State of N. York, and then proceed to Upper Canada. The New York Statesman (from which paper this article is abridged,) says "the instructions of Mr. Sabine, the Secretary of the London Society, who is understood to be a gentleman eminent for his scientific attainments, breathe a spirit of liberality and good feeling towards this country, and some of its distinguished citizens, which have not on all occasions characterised the intercourse of foreigners. We are gratified to learn that measures have been taken for opening a correspondence between the Horticultural Societies of London and of New York. The institution in this city is yet in its infancy, while that in London has been long established, and has become one of the most respectable and valuable associations in England. Its transactions, the last two numbers of which have just been received by Dr. Hosack, are published in a very superior style with plates, and contain a great variety of interesting matter."

We hope that these examples will excite our New England cultivators to honorable and profitable emulation. Mr. Lowell, in the last and several of the preceding numbers of the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository, has so well exhibited the advantages which may be anticipated from a due attention to this important branch of Husbandry, that any suggestions from us relating to the same subject might be deemed superfluous.* We shall therefore merely remark that our soil and climate afford greater facilities for the pursuits of horticulture than those of Great Britain. Our winters are colder, but our summer-sun is much more powerful, and we can cultivate in New England many plants, including maize, melons, &c. in the open air by ordinary means, which in Great Britain require artificial heat and other means to counteract the moisture and coldness of an atmosphere, ungenial to some valuable productions both of the field and the garden.

* *New England Farmer, vol. i, p.* 11, 412.

FOREIGN.

An arrival at N. York on the 25th inst. has brought Cadiz papers to the 10th of July. Cadiz was, at that time, well supplied with provisions, and no fears were entertained of a scarcity should the blockade continue for several months. Provisions were likewise cheap and plentiful at Algesiras, San Fernando and St. Sebastian. The French blockading squadron are unable to prevent small vessels and boats from entering the port of Cadiz, laden with provisions.

The Cortes, it is said, are zealously and industriously engaged in measures for the defence of the country. They have authorized the commanding generals in places besieged, and those whose commanders cannot conveniently communicate with the government at Cadiz, to establish special tribunals for the trial and punishment of crimes, and likewise to banish suspicious foreigners.

An English brig, laden with provisions, attempting to go into Cadiz, was boarded from the blockading squadron, most of her cargo thrown overboard, and the residue destroyed with salt water. A brig belonging to Wm. Gray, of Boston, had been ordered off and proceeded to Malaga. A Sardinian merchantman, with 500 quintals of cod fish, bound from Gibraltar to Lisbon, was detained three leagues from Cadiz, and her cargo thrown overboard.

Cadiz articles affirm that Morillo goes on organizing his army, which he has put on a brilliant footing.—The French who had arrived near Astorga, suddenly retired to Palencia—That several private letters received from Corunna, state that a French division of 6000 men had made a precipitate retreat across the Pyrenees. This, however, is not believed. General Zayas, commander of the third army of operations, gives favorable intelligence relative to the troops under his command.

Gen. Ballasteros sent a despatch to Cadiz, stating in detail, some occurrences connected with his late retreat from Alcira. He says that on the Royac road the French cavalry charged his infantry, but were repulsed in a contest hand to hand, and several French officers killed. He likewise asserts that Alicante and Carthagena were sufficiently garrisoned, and that his army will not be destroyed while he remains at its head —but he laments the effects of a wound which he received from a cannon ball at the battle of Murviedo. It is also reported that the garrison of Santona, in a sortie, had captured 250 prisoners, and 45,000 dollars in specie.

DOMESTIC.

Retreat for the Insane.—An act of the Legislature of Connecticut was passed in May, 1822, for constituting certain persons a corporation by the name of "The President and Directors of the Retreat for the Insane," and the Governor authorized and requested to grant a Brief, annually, for five years, soliciting contributions for the benefit of this institution. A Proclamation by Gov. Wolcott has been issued accordingly, and Directors appointed, who have made a purchase of a site for the Retreat, erected a building, and there is a prospect of their proceeding with a degree of success proportioned to the utility of the object.

Globe Factory.—Messrs. Wilsons, of Albany, have established a manufactory for making globes, and the Albany Daily Advertiser says, that "these native and self-taught artizans have brought their business to such perfection that they can turn out Globes, in all respects equal, and in some points superior, to any that are manufactured abroad, and brought into this market. It is with pleasure that we learn, an eminent bookseller in Philadelphia has come to the determination not to import any more from abroad, having given a decided preference to those made by the Wilsons." This is said to be the only establishment of the kind in America, and globes can there be obtained at a cheaper rate than they can be afforded from foreign countries.

The new and elegant steam-boat, *James Kent*, plying between N. York and Albany, is of such power as to make each trip up and down the river during the day time, which gives passengers an opportunity of viewing the scenery of the Hudson, through its whole extent.

Another Hunting Party attacked by Indians.—An article published at St. Louis, informs that a party of hunters were passing a narrow defile in the mountains, when a small party of Indians attacked them in front and rear, while the rest threw down stones from the mountains. The two leaders, Messrs. Robert Jones and Immell, were shot down first. The men, finding themselves left without a commander, took to flight, and were cut to pieces by the Indians.

Indian War.—The Cincinnati papers state, that there was a report in town, "from St Louis, that Maj. Henry's party spoken of by Gen. Ashley, in his letter of the 4th of June, on their passage from Yellow Stone river had been attacked by a large party of Indians and totally defeated, with a loss of thirty killed. We cannot vouch for the truth of this report, but from the hostile disposition lately manifested by the Indians in that quarter, and the small military force stationed at the posts up the Missouri, we have serious apprehensions of its truth."

On Saturday last the command of the Charlestown Naval Station was transferred by Com. Hull to Com. Bainbridge, in pursuance of orders from the Navy Department.

A barn in Pepperell, belonging to Mr. James Lawrence, Jr. was burnt by lightning on Thursday last.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	ton.	133 00	135 00
pearl do.		135 00	
BEANS, white,	bush	90	1 00
BEEF, mess, 200 cwt.	bbl.	9 00	9 50
cargo, No 1,		8 75	9 00
" No 2,		6 75	7 00
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual.	lb.	11	13
" 2d qual.		9	11
small kegs, family,		13	14
CHEESE, new milk		8	10
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	65	70
FLOUR, Baltimore, superfine,	bbl.	7 25	7 50
Genessee		7 00	7 12
Rye, best		3 50	3 75
GRAIN, Rye	bush	60	63
Corn		55	58
Barley		68	70
Oats		35	37
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	9	11
HOPS, No 1, Inspection of 1822		13	17
LIME,	cask	1 00	1 12
OIL, Linseed, American	gal.	60	65
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	2 75	3 00
PORK, Navy Mess	bbl.	12 00	12 50
Bone Middlings		14 50	15 00
Cargo, No 1,		12 00	12 50
Cargo, No 2,		11 00	11 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass, 1822,	bush	2 00	
Clover	lb.	7	8
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed		55	65
do do unwashed		40	50
do 3-4 washed		45	55
do 1-2 do		40	45
Native do		35	37
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		55	60
do Spinning, 1st sort		45	50
PROVISION MARKET.			
BEEF, best pieces	lb.	10	12
PORK, fresh		5	10
VEAL,		6	10
LAMB,		4	6
POULTRY,		12	14
BUTTER, keg & tub, family,		15	16
lump, best		20	22
EGGS,	doz.	12	14
MEAL, Rye,	bush	75	80
Indian,		70	75
POTATOES, new,		40	50
CIDER, liquor,	bbl.	2 00	2 75
HAY, best,	ton.	15 00	18 00

INSCRIPTION IN A HERMITAGE.

Beneath this stony roof reclin'd,
I sooth to peace my pensive mind:
And while, to shade my lowly cave,
Embow'ring elms their umbrage wave;
And while the maple dish is mine,
The beechen cup, unstain'd with wine;
I scorn the gay licentious crowd,
Nor heed the toys that deck the proud.

Within my limits lone and still,
The blackbird pipes in artless trill;
Fast by my couch, congenial guest,
The wren has wove her mossy nest;
From busy scenes and brighter skies,
To lurk with innocence, she flies;
Here hopes in safe repose to dwell,
Nor aught suspects the sylvan cell.

At morn I take my custom'd round,
To mark how buds yon shrubby mound;
And ev'ry op'ning primrose count
That trimly paints my blooming mount:
Or o'er the sculptures, quaint and rude,
That grace my gloomy solitude,
I teach in winding wreaths to stray
Fantastic ivy's gadding spray.

At eve within yon studious nook,
I ope my brass embossed book,
Pourtray'd with many a holy deed
Of martyrs, crown'd with heavenly meed:
Then, as my taper waxes dim,
Chant, ere I sleep, my measur'd hymn;
And, at the close, the gleams behold
Of parting wings bedropt with gold.

While such pure joys my bliss create,
Who but would smile at guilty state?
Who but would wish his holy lot
In calm Oblivion's humble grot?
Who but would cast his pomp away,
To take my staff and amice gray;
And to the world's tumultuous stage
Prefer the blameless hermitage!

From the Providence Journal.

BATTLE OF BENNINGTON.

The following account of the battle of Bennington, is extracted from Thacher's Journal. As the battle was one of the most sanguinary and decisive that was fought during our revolution, the narrative of it must be interesting to every description of readers. The account is not, however, so precise and distinct as could be wished, but it has the happy effect of introducing the reader to a knowledge of the state of our soldiery, at that eventful period.

"It was a providential circumstance that Gen. Stark, was at or near Bennington, with about eight hundred New England militia, part of whom being from the New Hampshire grants, were called Green Mountain boys. He advanced towards the enemy to reconnoitre their position, and some skirmishing ensued, in which thirty of them, with two Indian chiefs were killed and wounded, with little loss on our side. Col. Baum, alarmed at his situation, despatched a messenger to Burgoyne for a reinforcement. The 15th being a very rainy day, there was only some skirmishing in small parties. On the 16th General Stark, assisted by Col. Warner, matured his arrangements for battle—he divided his troops into three divisions, and ordered Colonel Nichols, with two hundred and fifty men, to gain the rear of the left wing of the enemy, and Col. Hendrick, the rear of their right wing, with three hundred men, while he attacked their front.—The Indians alarmed at the appearance of being surrounded endeavored to make their escape in a single file between the two parties, with their horrid yells and jingling of cow-bells. The flanking parties approaching each other in their rear, and Gen. Stark, making a bold and furious onset in front, a general and close conflict ensued, and continued with more or less severity for about two hours. Though Col. Baum had nearly twice their numbers, and was defended by breast works, the force opposed them proved irresistible, forcing their breast works at the muzzle of their guns, and obliging them to ground their arms and surrender at discretion, so that the victory on our part was complete. We took two pieces of brass cannon, and a number of prisoners, baggage, &c. This was no sooner accomplished than Col. Breyman, with one thousand German troops, arrived with two field pieces, to reinforce Col. Baum, who had just been defeated. Gen. Stark's troops were now scattered, some attending the wounded, some guarding the prisoners, and still more in pursuit of plunder—and all exhausted by extreme hunger and fatigue. At this critical moment Col. Warner's regiment arrived and the other troops being rallied the whole was ordered to advance.—A field piece had been taken from Baum in the forenoon and Stark ordered it to be drawn to the scene of action, but his men having never seen a cannon knew not how to load it, the General dismounted and taught them by loading it himself. An action soon commenced, and proved warm and desperate, in which both sides displayed the most daring bravery, till night approached when the enemy yielded a second time in one day to their yankee conquerors. The German troops being totally routed, availed themselves of the darkness to effect their retreat. The whole number of killed, wounded and prisoners, was nine hundred and thirty-four, including one hundred and fifty-seven tories—of this number, six hundred and fifty-four are prisoners. Col. Baum received a mortal wound, of which he died. Besides the above, one thousand stand of arms, four brass field pieces, two hundred and fifty dragoon swords, eight loads of baggage, and twenty horses fell into our hands. The loss on our side, was not more than one hundred in the whole."

ANECDOTE—Selected from Thacher's Journal.

"General Washington seldom smiles; I never saw him laugh but once; it was after the preliminaries of peace were signed, and at a Yankee story told by Dr. Thomas. There is not, perhaps, another man who can boast of exciting laughter in general Washington."

This is a mistake. Another gentleman who was often near his person during the revolutionary war, in important public functions, and who was then and is, one of the greatest wits of the age, excited him to laughter, almost at will, and that by original pleasantry much superior to the *ancient* story of Dr. Thomas.

The adieu between General Washington and the principal officers of the army, who met at a tavern, to take a final leave of him after the war, exhibits him in a mood that exalts his character as much as the grave equanimity which he displayed in battle and in the midst of the most complicated difficulties and dangers.

"Filling a glass; he turned to the officers and said—'With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable.' Having drank he added—'I cannot go to each of you to take my leave, but shall be obliged to you if each of you, will come and take me by the hand,'—General Knox being nearest, turned to him. Incapable of utterance, Washington, *in tears*, grasped his hand, embraced and kissed him. In the same affectionate manner, he took leave of each succeeding officer. In every eye was the tear of sensibility, and not a word was articulated to interrupt the tenderness of the scene."

PATRICK HENRY.

When Patrick Henry, who gave the first impulse to the ball of the American revolution, introduced his celebrated resolution on the stamp act into the House of Burgesses of Virginia (May 1765,) he exclaimed, when descanting on the tyranny of the obnoxious act, "Cesar had his Brutus; Charles the First his Cromwell; and George the III"—("Treason!" cried the speaker; "treason, treason!" echoed from every part of the house.)—It was one of those trying moments which are decisive of character. Henry faultered not for an instant; but fixing on the speaker an eye flashing with fire continued, "*may profit by their example.* If this be treason make the most of it."

Percy Anecdotes.

A man without money is a body without a soul—a walking death—a spectre that frightens every one. His countenance is sorrowful, and his conversation languishing and tedious. If he calls upon an acquaintance he never finds him at home, and if he opens his mouth to speak, he is interrupted every moment, so that he may not have a chance to finish his discourse; which, it is feared, will end with his asking for money. He is avoided like a person infected with disease, and is regarded as an incumbrance to the earth. Want wakes him up in the morning, and misery accompanies him to his bed at night.—The ladies discover that he is an awkward booby—landlords believe that he lives upon air, and if he wants any thing of a tradesman, he is asked for cash before delivery.

A Repartee.—While Napoleon was yet a subaltern in the army, a Russian officer with much self-sufficiency remarked, "that his country fought for glory, and the French for gain."—"You are perfectly right," answered Napoleon, "for every one fights for that which he does not possess."

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

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